

TO: MAGALIE SALAS, SECRETARY
THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445 12TH STREET, SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

FROM: VERMONT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED
SUPPORT GROUP CLIENT

SUBJECT: Reconsideration of the Reported order on Video Description
DOCKET No. 99-339

I WANT TO ENSURE THAT THE JULY 21ST RULING OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (FCC) ON PROVIDING VIDEO DESCRIPTION FOR TELEVISION PROGRAMMING IN THE FUTURE WILL STAND FIRM AND CONTINUE FORWARD.

I DO SUPPORT VIDEO DESCRIPTION AND I APPRECIATE THE FCC'S JULY VOTE. I HOPE THAT VIDEO DESCRIPTION CONTINUES TO MOVE FORWARD AND MAKE MANY ADVANCEMENTS IN THE FUTURE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COURAGEOUS VOTE REQUIRING THE NETWORKS TO BEGIN PROVIDING THIS ESSENTIAL INFORMATION SERVICE TO PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED. I BELIEVE THAT EVERY NETWORK SHOULD PROVIDE THIS SERVICE TO PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED.

IT IS SO IMPORTANT FOR ANYONE WHO CANNOT SEE THE SCREEN, TO HAVE AN ALTERNATE MEANS OF VIDEO DESCRIPTION, FOR KNOWING WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE TELEVISION.

I WILL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO TURNING ON MY TV SET IN APRIL OF 2002, TO ENJOY TELEVISION SHOWS WITH MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS; AND TO USE THE DESCRIPTION TO HELP ME UNDERSTAND THE VISUAL ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAMMING.

THIS FCC RULING IS A VERY VITAL STEP IN MAKING TELEVISION THAT IS ACCESSIBLE FOR BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED CITIZENS.

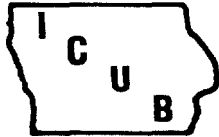
IN CONCLUSION, I BELIEVE THAT VIDEO DESCRIPTION WILL BE A GREAT ASSET; ALSO, IT WILL HELP MANY PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND THE VISUAL ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAMMING. ALL THE PEOPLE HAVEN'T PROVIDED ANY NEW INFORMATION THAT WAS NOT ALREADY KNOWN AT THE TIME THE FCC REACHED ITS DECISION AND ISSUED THE RULING.

SINCERELY YOURS,

Harriet G. Hall

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IOWA COUNCIL OF THE UNITED BLIND



October 31, 2000

Donna Seliger, President
3912 Southeast Fifth Street
Des Moines, IA 50315
888-404-5562 or 515-284-0505
dseliger@worldnet.att.net

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Magaile Salas, Secretary
The Federal Communications Commission
445 - 12th Street Southwest
Washington, DC 20054

RE: Docket No. 99-339

Dear Ms. Salas:

On behalf of the 250 members of the Iowa Council of the United Blind, a statewide consumer organization, I am writing to oppose the petitions filed for reconsideration of the reported order on video description.

As a blind person, I can tell you that having video described television programs and movies is wonderful. We here in Iowa are very pleased with the results of the ruling made earlier this summer on described programming to commence in April 2002. This would be a giant step forward for blind people throughout the country to enable more independence.

Consider this. If you were to go to a movie with a blind friend and had to spend the entire time whispering to the friend with bits of information that were not audible, you probably wouldn't enjoy the movie much. On the other hand, if the movie contained description so your blind friend could listen through a headset, you both could enjoy the movie equally.

The Iowa Council of the United Blind appreciates the work the FCC has done and would hope the decision to have description for TV and movies in 2002 will stand.

Sincerely,

Donna Seliger
Donna Seliger, President

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1304 - 39th Street
Des Moines, IA 50311

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Des Moines, IA 50310

November 7, 2000

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425 Dayton Towers Dr., Apt. 2H
Dayton, OH 45410

Ms. Magalie Salas, Secretary,
The Federal Communications Commission,
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

re: Docket No.: 99-339

TO THE FCC COMMISSIONERS:

I am submitting comments in opposition to PETITIONERS FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THE REPORTED ORDER ON VIDEO DESCRIPTION.

I would like to commend you for your courageous vote in favor of requiring the television networks to provide video description in their programming. I realize you are facing considerable pressure from the television, cable, and motion picture industry associations.

How would you feel if you were blind-folded and left in a room alone to listen to/watch your favorite TV programs? We do not always have sighted friends or relatives with us to describe what is happening on the TV screen. Please keep that in mind when hearing this petition for reconsideration. Also, please realize that no new information has been provided by the petitioners for reconsideration.

600808

My parents and I support our local theatre association by maintaining a season subscription to the audiodescribed productions. The audio description of the plays tremendously enhances my enjoyment and appreciation of the performances. I am also quite impressed by the DVS movies.

Again, I appreciate your vote for progress in July and am confident that you will sustain that vote even in the face of strong pressure. I look forward to benefitting from the video described television programs starting in April 2002.

Also, please require telephone numbers to be spoken in commercials and infomercials. You have no idea how frustrating it is to hear someone say, "Call the number on your screen", and not be able to find out what that number is.

Sincerely,



Rhea Collett

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November 6, 2000

Federal Trade Commision
445 12th SW
Washington DC 20554
Magalie Salas secretary

Dear Magalie Salas,
I wish to express that the
commision is considering
changing their vote to extend to
petitioners time about descriptive
videos I have enjoyed wacthing
these movies with my family and
do hope to continue too. The
docket # 99-339, should be done
as originally voted by the
commision as the petitioners had
time enough to deem necessary
time why they need to make
changes.

Yours sincerely,
William R Dixon


3010 Medina sr.
Garland TX 75041-3349s

NOVEMBER 2000

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